Dear Potential Student Leaders,

The Hancock Student Leadership Program continues to offer you the opportunity to enhance your leadership skills, build your résumés, create your professional networks, and further develop your leadership potential. The program seeks motivated, energetic, and exemplary students from a variety of academic backgrounds and continues to offer:

- a $1,500.00 stipend
- field experience geared toward your major and career interests.
- a shadowing experience in leadership in either an on or an off-campus organizational setting
- three (3) credits of Cooperative Education Internship Credits (CED 297) upon successful completion of the program.
- a public presentation to showcase your accomplishments

The eligibility requirements for the HSLP are:

- WCSU full-time undergraduate status and some leadership experience or a strong interest in leadership
- a 3.0 GPA or better
- a minimum of 45 and a maximum of 100 credits earned at the time of application
- an application submitted (via USPS parcel post or email), which includes:
  1) two (2) brief essays (a minimum of 500 words each). One essay should address your experience with or interest in leadership and the other may be a graded paper or a completed class assignment that reflects your thinking, ideas, or perspective on an issue, subject, or problem
  2) a current résumé
  3) an unofficial university transcript
  4) the names and contact information of three (3) professional and/or academic references

The Deadline to apply is Friday, October 7, 2022, by 5 p.m.

**Hancock Student Leadership Program Description and Objectives:**

The Hancock Student Leadership Program is designed to promote, foster, and identify student leaders and develop your ability to inspire, motivate, and influence others after graduation. The program hopes to promote basic understandings of the skills necessary to be effective leaders by helping you to develop ethics, good communication, compassion and empathy, team and community building, creative problem solving, goal setting, conflict resolution, independent thinking, and the financial awareness required for sound financial stewardship required for the management of budgets. The program’s ultimate goal is to help in the development of a strong cohort of future leaders by measuring, testing, and encouraging resiliency, adaptability, and accountability in those of you who show promise. You will learn firsthand the skills necessary to become successful leaders. The following themes will be emphasized:

- Mission/vision articulation
- Leadership styles and philosophies
- Supervision, delegation, evaluation, and accountability
- Organizational change and/or evolution
- Organizational, personal, and professional ethics
•Risk taking and establishing new paradigms in leadership

The core of the program involves a fall semester shadowing experience and a possible leadership project. The program is an opportunity for you, an exemplary group of full-time students, to be mentored by actual leaders in a variety of industries, professions, and fields. The Hancock Student Leadership Program offers those of you with some existing leadership experience the opportunity to shadow a highly-placed member of an organization. Those of you with no leadership experience, who demonstrate strong potential for leadership, also will be considered for the program. Each field experience is specifically tailored to your academic major and/or career aspirations. You may engage in a project or projects as part of your field experience, but your placements are primarily intended to provide you with the opportunity to observe leadership in action at the highest levels of the non-profit, corporate, medical, educational, business, legal, media, criminal justice, and other professional worlds. You will also meet with the program director a minimum of five times per year to discuss your placements and to read and respond to literature and other materials about leadership. Each year’s cohort of student leaders participates in a final public forum where you showcase your experiences. For more information about the program or to apply, please contact me, the HSLP Program Director and Coordinator, Professor D.L. Stephenson, at stephensond@wcsu.edu or please mail or email all application materials to:

D.L. Stephenson, Ph.D.
Director, Hancock Student Leadership Program
Western Connecticut State University
181 White Street
White Hall, 021-D
Danbury, CT 06810
stephensond@wcsu.edu